October 5, 2015

Senator Mike Nofs P.O. Box 30036 Lansing, MI 48909-7536

Dear Senator Nofs:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Middle Michigan Development Corporation which provides economic development services for Clare and Isabella Counties.

Michigan certainly is in the midst of a tremendous economic recovery thanks to many of the great accomplishments by Governor Snyder and Legislature. But many of the business leaders I meet with tell me they are very concerned about the state's looming electric capacity shortfall. In order to continue Michigan's economic growth, we need responsible electric regulations so we can have continued access to reliable, affordable and clean energy.

Electricity is a major portion of a company's expenses. Our companies want to be able to rely on our suppliers and be able to predict what their electrical costs are going to be. To attract and retain businesses, Michigan needs a stable and predictable electric policy that protects customers from volatile rate spikes and guarantees we have the capacity we need to service our needs. Otherwise, our companies will simply take their business elsewhere.

The alternative energy suppliers who operate in the deregulated electric market have demonstrated that they are not willing to build new plants here. Their lack of support for our grid is partially responsible for the projected capacity shortfall that Michigan faces next year.

In order to keep our businesses here and attract new companies, we need a comprehensive energy policy that makes sure that each customer is responsible for paying their fair share to support the grid. The certainty created by regulation will ensure that Michigan never runs short on electric capacity and continues to have reliable, affordable and clean energy.

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Please do the right thing!

Sincerely,

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President and CEO

Middle Michigan Development Corporation